VOL. XXIX No. 4

# **JOURNAL**

OF THE

# NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



NOVEMBER, 1937

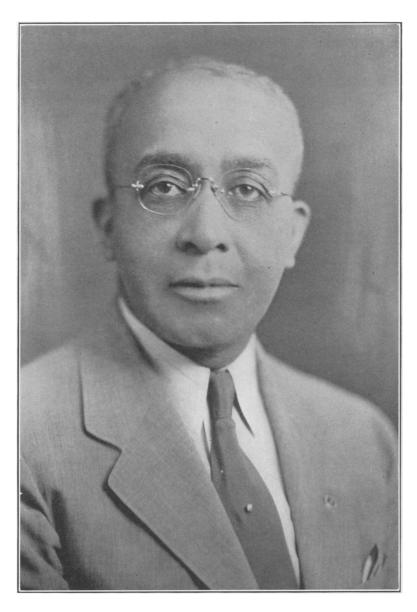
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND ALLIED PROFESSIONS OF
MEDICINE, SURGERY, DENTISTRY AND PHARMACY

FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST, NOVEMBER

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The Editors endeavor to publish only that which is authentic, but disclaim any responsibility for views expressed by contributors.

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George W. Bowles, M.D.

Incoming President National Medical Association
1937-1938

- 4. No special provision is made for treating Negro children with mental disease, except a few in institutions for mental defectives.
- 5. Need for improvement for facilities available for Negroes suffering from mental disease is in the direction of better medical service, preventative and therapeutic, an increase in number of adequate hospitals and adequately trained personnel and increased financial support among governmental and public health agencies; and a greater utilization of the knowledge, techniques and devices made available by scientific research for the study of the marked increase of mental disease among Negroes.
- 6. Negroes are largely economically insecure. With economic security alone, Negro patients' with mental disease opportunities for being discharged recovered would be increased 557.16 per cent.

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#### SPECIAL NOTICE

We desire to emphasize the necessity of every member paying his dues now. The 1938 membership fees of \$5.00 and Journal subscription becomes due and payable on January 1st.

The only tangible evidence that you have throughout the year that your association is functioning is the regular appearance of your Journal. Each one knows that it costs money to keep this afloat. If you don't pay it, somebody else must.

Subscription, without membership, is \$2.00. We must discontinue the Journal to those who have paid neither subscription nor membership

### JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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### EDITORIALS

#### ST. LOUIS MEETING

The Forty-Third Convention of the National Medical Association has gone down in history. In retrospect let us attempt to evaluate its achievements.

It was notable because of one of the largest registrations in the history of the Association, because of the hospitality extended us by both medical and lay St. Louis, because of the splendid clinics prepared by the faculty of St. Louis University and the staffs of the Peoples' Hospital, St. Mary's Infirmary, and the Homer G. Phillips Hospital, the latter one of the largest and best equipped of its kind to be found anywhere in America.

St. Louis, itself, extended every courtesy from a radio broadcast by the President over Station KSD, excerpts of which were made the subject of a complimentary editorial the following day by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, to a warm welcome in the spacious, air-cooled, Municipal Convention Hall. The newspapers, both colored and white, gave splendid publicity to our meetings and the scientific papers, in fact, daily press conferences were one of the innovations. One reporter considered the information he received so valuable that he

requested his editor to assign him to cover the Hampton meeting for the Associated Press.

The scientific exhibits were the largest and most varied of any of our conventions, and were splendidly housed in neat, attractive, uniformly decorated booths. Our exhibitors were more than pleased with the results of their efforts. Too great credit cannot be given to Doctors Givens and William E. Allen, Jr., whose unselfish services made the success of the scientific display possible.

The Executive Board and the House of Delegates are to be congratulated upon their untiring efforts in grappling with the problems of the day, not only those medical, but the economic, political, and social problems. The Convention has the unique distinction of being perhaps the first national organization of our group to go on record as opposing the nomination of Senator Black to the Supreme Court of the United States at a time when others whose duty it was were conspicuous by their silence or were hastening to extend their felicitations to the nominee!

The Convention went on record as endorsing Surgeon General Thomas A. Parran's cam-

### PROFESSIONAL NEWS

Physicians are urged to send in news of interest about institutions, individuals and societies. Public health programs, medical education items, professional lectures and election of society officers specially desired.

Send matter for this column to Peter Marshall Murray, M.D., 2588—7th Avenue, New York City. Your cooperation is invited.

HOW.ARD UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE—Instruction for the Seventy-First Session of the College of Medicine began September 27, 1937. The outstanding feature of the educational program this year is the reorganization of the clinical curriculum with a view to improving the contact between the students and the patients and of the more effective supervision for clinical teaching. New appointments to the faculty are as follows:

Raymond L. Gregory, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department of Medicine; Paul B. Cornely, M.D., D.P.H., Acting Director of the University Health Service;

Howard M. Payne, M.D., Instructor in Medicine and Assistant University Health Physician;

Virginia M. Alexander, M.D., Assistant University Health Physician;

Leslie K. MacClatchie, M.D., Clinical Instructor in Dermatology and Syphilology;

Thomas C. Simmons, M.D., Clinical Instructor in Obstetrics and Gynecology;

Monroe G. Gregory, M.D., Assistant in Anatomy; John B. Johnson, M.D., Assistant in Medicine; James O. Miles, M.D., Clinical Assistant in Obstetrics and Gynecology;

Nolan A. Owens, M.D., Clinical Assistant in Pediatrics;

Advances in rank are as follows:

Robert S. Jason, M.D., Ph.D., to Professor of Pathology;

Hildrus A. Poindexter, M.D., Ph.D., to Professor in Bacteriology, Preventive Medicine and Public Health;

Vernon A. Wilkerson, M.D., Ph.D., to Professor in Biochemistry;

Hartford R. Burwell, M.D., to Clinical Assistant Professor in Surgery;

R. Frank Jones, M.D., to Clinical Assistant Professor in Urology;

T. Edward Jones, M.D., to Clinical Assistant Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology;

Phillip T. Johnson, M.D., to Clinical Assistant Professor in Orthopedic Surgery;

Merton B. Anderson, M.S., to Instructor in Bacteriology;

Merrill H. Curtis, M.D., to Instructor in Ophthal-mology;

Edward J. Watson, M.D., to Instructor in Ophthal-mology;

George L. Adams, M.D., to Clinical Instructor in Surgery.

Vacation Activities:

Elmer E. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., advanced study in pathology at the Institute of Pathology, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio;

W. Montague Cobb, M.D., Ph.D., research in physical anthropology at Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio;

Hildrus A. Poindexter, M.D., Ph.D., field work in epidemiology in the State of Mississippi;

Alonzo DeG. Smith, M.D., graduate study in child behavior, Catholic University of America, Wash., D.C.;

M. Wharton Young, M.D., Ph.D., research in neuro-anatomy, University of Michigan.

The Tuberculosis Association of the District of Columbia has recently made a grant of \$400 for use of the University Health Service for a tuberculosis case finding study in the student body of Howard University.

MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE, NASH-VILLE, TENN. — DR. EDWARD LEWIS TURNER, Professor and Head of the Department of Internal Medicine, was tendered a reception by PRES-IDENT JOHN J. MULLOWNEY, and a group of representative men of the professions of medicine and dentistry at Hermitage Hotel, upon the completion of his first year's work at Meharry Medical College.

The Board of Trustees of Meharry Medical College was represented by the President of the Board, Mr. Charles Nelson, the Academy of Medicine by Dr. H. S. Shoulders and others, the Dental Profession by Dr. Walter O. Faught, Leslie W. Noel and others, and the State Department of Health by Dr. W. C. Williams, Comm. of Health of the State of Tenn.

DR. TURNER was Professor of Internal Medicine from 1922 to 1933 at the American Univ., Beirut, Syria. PRESIDENT MULLOWNEY announced a conditional gift of \$20,000.00 for the establishment of a tumor clinic for the diagnosis and treatment of tumors at Meharry, by Mr. Edward S. Harkness, if and when another \$10,000.00 is raised by the friends of the college, not later than January 1, 1938. President Mullowney believes that the alumni and the friends of the college will meet this challenge.

MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE has graduated over 4,000 students and will begin its sixty-second consecutive session on October 1, 1937.

NORTH JERSEY MEDICAL SOCIETY, NEW-ARK, N. J.—September 8th Meeting, Dr. Milton Friedman, Newark, N. J., "Recent advances in the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer." October 6th Meeting, Dr. E. Mae McCarroll, Newark Department of Health, "Syphilis."

## N. M. A. ACTIVITIES

N.M.A. ACTIVITIES

#### THE ST. LOUIS MEETING

The St. Louis Meeting is now history. The Mound City's gigantic preparation for the Forty-third Session of the National Medical Association has established an enviable place in recorded N.M.A. activities. The terraced green on which old Sumner stands, her meeting rooms, courteous guides; the hospitals and generous equipment shall long remain a monument to the farvisioned home-guard of men and women who provided so wisely and so amply for our coming. St. Louis is to be congratulated upon the facilities at her command and upon the artful ken with which these were turned to use for purposes of the conclave of the National Medical Association. Tradition, established in other years found new expression at St. Louis, in clinic, paper, lecture and demonstration; truly, the bounds of professional achievement rests largely upon the efforts of our collective contributions.

Dr. William D. Giles

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### August 17, 1937

The following recommendations were adopted by the Executive Board in session on the afternoon of August 17, 1937:

- I. The House of Delegates shall have the power to nominate and elect all officers of the National Medical Association. No member of Executive Board shall be a member of the House of Delegates.
- II. It shall be the prerogative of the House of Delegates to organize itself as it sees fit—that is, elect its own officers and fix their terms of office.
- III. All matters of public policy as pertaining to medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy shall be referred to the House of Delegates for action and later be presented to the body in joint session.
- IV. House of Delegates shall elect one member annually to be an unofficial observer in the meetings of the Executive Board during the following year.

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SESSIONS HELD AT ST. LOUIS, MO.

#### August-1937

The Board convened in room 108, Sumner High School on the morning of August 16, with the Chairman, Dr. George W. Bowles, presiding. In a few

well chosen and timely remarks, Dr. Bowles addressed the body, setting forth the fact that there were a number of very important items confronting the Board and if this meeting of the N.M.A. was to be a success, to a large extent that success would be predicated upon the actions of this body, and he asked that we give unusual thought to the matters that would be brought to our attention. He then asked the secretary of the Executive Board, Dr. Marcus B. Hutto, for a roll call. This was done, disclosing the fact that the following members were present: Drs. R. O. Roett, J. B. Davis, A. N. Vaughn, William M. Thomas, Ulric W. Pryce, Carl G. Roberts, W. S. Martin, J. H. Hale, Jesse L. Leach, J. W. E. Linder, Charles A. Whittier, S. H. C. Owens.

A communication was read from Dr. T. L. Zuber, a member of the Board, in which he stated that due to illness he would not be able to attend the meeting this year, and requested that his brother be granted the privilege to act in his stead. The Board acknowledged the receipt of this letter, and expressed its regrets of Dr. Zuber's illness, and hoped for him an early recovery. In the matter of his brother serving in his stead, the Board acted upon this request in the manner prescribed by the constitution, referred same to the Section represented by Dr. Zuber, and they in turn recommended for this session the individual they desired to represent them at this session. This section, however, did grant the request of Dr. Zuber, and deputized his brother to act during this session. The chairman being assured by roll call that there were enough members present to legally transact all business arising, proceeded with the next item of business. He requested the secretary to read the business agreed for this session. This the secretary did, evincing the fact that all matters were in routine procedure, embracive and conclusive and if adhered to would assure us a very constructive meeting. The body expressed itself as highly pleased with this arrangement. The secretary's minutes of the preceding meeting were next on schedule. The secretary gave a very full and accurate account in detail of the Philadelphia meeting, the ad-interim meeting held in Philadelphia at the request of Chairman Bowles, in October, and the spring meeting held in Tuskegee. Alabama, in April. This report gave to the Body a clean conception of what had been done and of the items yet in the process of completion, and placed them in a position to proceed understandingly from that point. This report was highly commented upon, the Board expressing their gratitude, and by a motion of Dr. Carl Roberts, seconded by Drs. Leach, Thomas, Vaughn, was sustained.

Chairman Bowles' special report was asked for. This report covered the activities of his office, special and official, and an accounting of the duties entrusted to his hands. The report showed that as Chairman, he had fully discharged his duties and in many instances showed rare judgment, tact and ability in ameliorating embarrassing conditions that naturally would arise. This report was received and unanimously sustained, and Chairman Bowles voted a rising vote of thanks for the manner in which he had conducted the affairs of his office. The Chairman next appointed the standing committees and special committees.

The report of general officers was next in order. The report of General Secretary Givens was called for. Be it recalled that Dr. Givens was serving his first year as general secretary, and it was expected that he would, in his report, evince the usual characteristics of an apprentice. But he soon dissipated any such thoughts, and in a few minutes showed very clearly that he had set about to conduct the affairs of his office in a definite way and in a manner accepted and approved by present day business standards. He first presented to all members a sheet containing an account of all monies collected from all sources during the year; all monies paid out, to whom, for what, and the date paid. He also presented bills for same, and the amount of money collected for the year, up to date, and the amount released to the Treasurer up to

Financial Statement from the Secretary's Office:
Collected prior to the Convention, from membership fees and Journal, and exhibits \$1,806.92
Released to the treasurer, during the Convention, up to the time of this report 2,914.00

Making a grand total collected during the year, dues, Journal fee, exhibits \$4,720.92

This sum represents the money collected for all purposes as up to this date. The convention was still in session and money was steadily being collected, and some of the exhibitors had not discounted their account. The full account of finances will appear in the issue of the Journal under the general secretary's report. However, the secretary did make an observation that after all bills held against the Association had been discounted, he felt sure that there would be on hand a balance no less than \$1,200.00.

The report of the general treasurer, Dr. Taylor, was next in order. Be it remembered that this was Dr. Taylor's first year in office; but he showed by his report, that he had displayed rare business ability in the handling of the finances. He had been to his bank, and had a detailed itemized sheet compiled,

showing his deposits and disbursements from the day he made his first entry. The account was balanced up to date, and there was no question as to whom and for what purpose the money was disbursed. Dr. Taylor was congratulated by the board, report accepted, and given into the hands of the auditing committee, along with the general secretary's report.

The report of the Editor of the Journal was called for. Dr. Kenney, who has so competently filled this position, gave this report in his usual style, all the facts in hand, all bills paid up to date, and the Journal having made money and operated within the budget. He spoke of the high favor in which the Journal was received by all medical and dental groups, commented at large on the fine spirit of cooperation exhibited by Dr. Peter Marshall Murray, and Mr. Charles C. Morchand. Dr. Kenney read a letter from Dr. Alexander, in which he resigned from the editorial board. He also presented copies of letters written to the executive board, along with the copy of Dr. Alexander's resignation. In these letters, he urged the officials to try to induce Dr. Alexander to withdraw his resignation. The matter was discussed, but no official action was taken.

It was shown by the general secretary's report that the sum of \$1,009.00 had been allocated to the Journal during the year. It was decided that this sum should be retained as a special account for the Journal expense, not to be used for any other purpose, and the following resolution was proposed and adopted.

"Be it resolved that it is the sense of this body, and it is so ordered, that all surplus money from advertising in the Journal of the National Medical Association, over and above the cost of financing the publication, all income from Journal subscriptions, and all the pro rated fee of two (\$2.00) dollars from each paid membership in the National Medical Association, be and hereby are allocated to the Journal and its interest; said monies are to be held in separate account by the treasurer of the National Medical Association, and earmarked for the Journal. It is specifically agreed and ordered that these funds will be held by the treasurer, inviolate insofar as general National Medical Association expenses are concerned.

It is further directed that all income pertaining to such fund will be collected by or sent to the general secretary, who will maintain a specific and accurate account of same, and who will, in turn, deposit same with the treasurer of the National Medical Association, receiving from him a receipt therefor.

It is further agreed and ordered that payments from this fund will be made only on vouchers drawn and signed jointly by the General Secretary of the National Medical Association, the editor of the Journal of the National Medical Association, the chairman of Board of Directors, and the president. The treasurer and secretary will, at each annual meeting, and at such other times as requests may come from the publication committee, render a statement as to the status of this fund.

This fund is so separate and distinct from the regular Association's treasury, that in the event the Association's funds are attached, this money will remain exempt and vice-versa, if any attachment proceedings are issued against the Journal fund."

Attention was called to the report of Chairman Bowles in which he delivered the report of Mr. Garlick, the Certified Public Accountant. And the question was asked if we did consider this report as final. The answer was in the affirmative. Dr. Kenney asked that inasmuch as he had served as interim treasurer, due to the demise of Dr. Levy, the former treasurer, he wanted the Body to take due and official notice of his conduct while acting in this position, as he desired his record to be above reproach, not only now, but in the years to come. His request was granted and the body requested the secretary to formulate a resolution expressing the wishes of the body in this regard. which is as follows:

"Because of the fallibility, frailty and weaknesses of human nature and disposition to forget so soon, Be it inscribed in the executive minutes of the executive board here at the St. Louis session, 1937, that, on or about January 1st, 1937, Dr. John A. Kenney, treasurer, interim, of the National Medical Association, did render a proper and acceptable accounting of his office and that he did release to Dr. E. T. Taylor, treasurer of the National Medical Association, a check to the amount of \$337.30, this representing the balance on hand of the N.M.A. monies, after all then known bills had been paid, and further that in his report the certified public accountant, Mr. C. Garlick, states that he found Dr. Kenney's account in 'perfect balance'."

Dr. Roscoe C. Giles, president of the National Medical Association was next presented to render his report. Without a doubt, Dr. Giles proved by his report that he was one of the most active, conscientious, constructive and business-minded presidents in the history of the organization. The report was brim full of his activities. He had contacted every worthwhile and recognized medical and dental organization in the country, visited St. Paul, Minneapolis, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Atlantic City, espousing the cause of

the National Medical Assosciation. He had consistently and courageously fought for national recognition for our group, on the same basis as others as relates to the national policy of the United States Public Health Service, in the allocation and dispensing of Federal funds, and the establishing of medical units in the instruction and treatment of specific diseases. He took the position that the National Medical Association, as an organization, embracing the intellect, intelligence, ability and an appreciation of the many vital questions and issues that confront this nation daily, and of which we, as a race, constitute an integral part, must arouse from our state of lethargy, and a hands-off policy and must register our support, or protest in accordance with our reaction. He submitted some very constructive legislation. Specifically did he submit for immediate action on the part of the board, action on our part as to our attitude to the confirmation of the then Senator Hugo Black to the position of Associate Supreme Court Justice, and our policy toward national birth control.

This report was very highly received, and was unanimously approved. Dr. Carl Roberts secured the floor and spoke at large on the above specified recommendations. He, along with the many others, moved that a committee be appointed to construct a message so worded to the President of the United States, and members of the Judiciary Committee. This motion provoked a deal of discussion, but all were of the opinion that we should register our disapproval as an organization. The chairman appointed a committee and the following message was sent:

"The 43rd annual convention of the National Medical Association, in session, assembled at St. Louis, Missouri, representing the organized professions of medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy among the Negroes of the United States, desires to respectfully call your attention to the lack of judicial temperament, proper professional qualifications, and reputed affiliations with the Ku Klux Klan of the State of Alabama of Senator Hugo Black, and respectfully desire to go on record as protesting this appointment as inimical to the best interest of the country at large and the American Negro in particular, and urge that you use your vote and influence to prevent this confirmation."

Signed by the following:

President, Roscoe L. Giles, M.D., Illinois; J. L. Leach, M.D., Michigan; W. M. Thomas, M.D., Kansas; J. E. Perry, M.D., Missouri; J. A. Kenney, M.D., New Jersey; C. G. Roberts, M.D., Illinois; M. B. Hutto, D.D.S., Georgia, Secretary, Executive Board; George W. Bowles, Chairman, Executive Board, Pennsylvania.

The highly controversial question of birth control was proposed by Dr. Martin of Memphis. This evoked quite a bit of discussion. Dr. Giles moved that the Body go on record as favoring birth control, as limited by the American Medical Association. This did not seem to meet the approval of the Body, and Dr. A. N. Vaughn, Missouri, made this motion, "That the National Medical Association go on record as endorsing birth control under regulated and supervised medical authority." This motion was sustained with only one dissentant, namely, Dr. R. O. Roett, who asked that he go on record as being unalterably opposed to any form of birth control.

The report of Dr. Byrd, of Norfolk, Virginia, as chairman of the commission on syphilis, was called for. This report was of such serious import that the body deemed it advisable to have this reread at the general assembly. This was done, and the report revealed that Dr. Byrd and associates had succeeded to a great extent, in accomplishing their mission. A unit had been established at Norfolk, by the United States Government, and one was to be established at Howard and Meharry in the near future. Dr. Byrd was highly commended for his efforts and asked to continue his work.

The board was officially advised that the chairman, Dr. Bowles, had been elevated to the station of president-elect. Many present expressed their pleasure. They felt a definite loss in his going, but appreciated the esteem in which he is held by the organization.

Dr. Givens made his final report as secretary. Same was approved and accepted. The auditor's report was approved. The presentation of all new bills were read by the secretary. These bills were itemized. They were passed upon and ordered paid.

Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, was chosen as the next seat of the conventional sitting. The new members of the board were presented, namely: Drs. Boddy, Taylor and Perry. The secretary advised that the next order of business was the election of chairman, and Secretary, Dr. Vaughn moved that Dr. Wm. M. Thomas of Kansas be chosen as chairman of the board, seconded by Dr. Roberts and sustained. Dr. Roberts moved that Dr. Marcus B. Hutto be retained as secretary; seconded by Dr. Leach and sustained. The board adjourned to convene at Tuskegee Institute, in the month of April, 1938.

Faithfully submitted,

MARCUS B. HUTTO, D.D.S.,
Secretary, Executive Board, N.M.A.
Attest:

WM. M. THOMAS, M.D., Chairman, Executive Board, N.M.A.

# MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

ST. LOUIS, MO., August 17, 1937

Called to order 10:30 A.M. by Dr. Earle Williams, president of Mound City Medical Forum. Prayer by Rev. Thompson of St. Louis. Dr. Williams introduced the president, Dr. R. C. Giles of Chicago. Dr. Giles congratulated the men of St. Louis on their professional advancement and preparation for the convention. He also congratulated the officers on their fine spirit of cooperation.

Minutes were read by Dr. A. C. Terrence and approved.

Dr. Hutto, secretary of the Executive Board, read the minutes of that body. They were adopted. Dr. Hutto also reported action of the Executive Board with reference to the position of the N. M. A. affecting the Anti-lynching bill, Socialized medicine, and its opposition to the appointment of Senator Black to a seat on the Supreme Court bench. A vote of thanks was given the Board for its action.

Dr. D. W. Byrd of Norfolk, Va., introduced Dr. Burke of that city acting secretary of the Commission on Syphilis. Dr. Byrd stated that 60,000 babies are born annually with syphilis, also that there are 140,000 persons suffering with cardio-vascular lues.

The commission presented a letter asking Dr. Parran to include Negro physicians in helping to stamp out Syphilis and that they be allowed to take part in Social Health Organization.

Drs. R. C. Giles and Roscoe Brown spoke of the public health course opened at Howard University and urged physicians to avail themselves of this instruction.

The Commission for the study of infant mortality made its report stating that they had made contacts with 101 hospitals. Most of them were white. Only seven out of twenty hospitals responded. Eighty-one of those approached were white. The report was supplemented with charts showing work done by the commission.

Dr. Clarence H. Payne of Chicago made the report of the Commission on tuberculosis. He mentioned the shortage of beds in hospitals for Negroes infected with tuberculosis. He stressed education of the public and recommended that the subject be discussed at each meeting of the N. M. A.

Dr. John A. Kenney of Newark, N. J., in a very brief address stated that the Journal of the National Medical Association is now self-sustaining. His report was highly commendable.

Attendance 548.

# MINUTES OF JOINT MEETING MEDICAL AND SURGICAL

#### August 17, 1937

The meeting was called to order by Dr. T. M. Smith, Chairman of Medical Section at two p.m.

A Symposium on Pneumonia and its complications was discussed as follows: The clinical aspects: Dr. W. A. Younge. Surgical aspects: Dr. Wm. Sinkler. Roentgen aspects: Dr. Wm. E. Allen, Jr., X-ray Dept. Homer G. Phillips Hospital. Dr. Russel L. Smith of Moline, Ill., discussed collapse therapy in pneumonia. Dr. Younge gave a brief history of pneumonia, presenting evidence that it was found and known among the ancients. He spoke of the four types of pneumonia and stressed the necessity of finding out what type you are dealing with before beginning treatment. He mentioned pleurisy, empyæma, pericarditis and peritonitis as being the most frequent complications.

With regards to the surgical aspects of pneumonia Dr. Sinkler said that the main two objects of the surgeon were the preservation of life and the prevention of chronic empyæma. He defined empyæma as an abscess in the pleural cavity. He urged that the pus in empyæma should be repeatedly aspirated until thickening occurred, at which time the Mediastinum has become fixed. Rib resection at this time is attended with a minimum of danger to the patient. After two or three days the cavity may be irrigated with Dakins solution. Empyæma caused by the streptococcus usually is a concomitant affection with pneumonia. Rib resection in this type of case is usually a dangerous procedure. After care in these cases consists of high caloric diet. Rest, and transfusions (100 c.c. blood) every two or three days if necessary.

The beneficial results from collapse therapy are (1) putting the diseased lung at rest; (2) separation of pleural surfaces causing cessation of pain and (3) reduction of dyspnœa so stated Dr. Russel Smith. He advocates early induction of collapse therapy and maintaining it for several days. Bilateral pneumonia was stated as a definite contraindication to collapse therapy.

A symposium on syphilis was the next discussion on program. Dr. O. C. Wenger, U. S. Dept. of Public Health, in discussing the epidemiology of syphilis stated that over 500,000 new cases of syphilis occurred annually and that eighty per cent of all syphilis seen by the doctor is late syphilis and only twenty per cent of cases receive adequate treatment which was defined by him as twenty injections of

neoarsphenamine and twenty injections of a heavy metal as bismuth. He urged the profession to be more alert on the diagnosis of syphilis, report all cases to board of health and be as thorough as possible in the treatment of this condition.

Clinical facilities with relation to syphilis was discussed by Dr. John W. Lawlah, Medical Director, Provident Hospital; Dr. Ralph Scull, Dept. of Dermatology, Provident Hospital, spoke on the serology of syphilis. He warned against making a diagnosis of lues in a weak positive Wassermann test. In these cases it is best to repeat the Wassermann test several times until you have proof of the presence or absence of syphilis.

Dr. Joseph Crindon, Sr. Prof. of Dermatology, St. Louis University School of Medicine, spoke on the clinical aspects of syphilis. He stressed the importance of the Wassermann test and Dark Field Examination. With regards to the Wassermann test the percentage of positives is higher week by week, whereas by the dark field examination the percentage of positives begins to decrease after the second week of the primary lesion. A chancre may not have the indurated ring during the first few weeks as has been the common belief. A fever which may be erroneously diagnosed may occur at any stage of syphilis so stated Dr. Crindon.

The ophthalmologic aspects of syphilis were briefly discussed by Dr. H. Reginald Smith, Dept. of Ear, Eye, Nose and Throat, Provident Hospital, Chicago, Ill.

He stressed the importance of a guided prognosis in all inflammatory conditions of the eye, whether due to injury or otherwise. A simple injury to eye may become severe if the patient is luetic. Ocular trouble of luetic origin may be very slow to respond to the most vigorous antiluetic therapy hence the need for a very careful prognosis in these conditions.

Dr. Prince Barker, Dept. of Neurology, U. S. Veterans Facility No. 91, Tuskegee, Ala., discussed the neurologic aspects of syphilis. He stressed epidemiology also and deplored the great number of cases of late syphilis in whom neurological symptoms predominate.

He spoke of the meningeal vascular and the meningovascular types of syphilis, mentioning the latter as being most frequently encountered in Negroes. Tabes and general pareses are not nearly as common in the Negro as in the Caucasian. Dr. Barker defined paresis as a meningo-encephalitis and stated that in quite a few instances a case of general paresis may be ushered in by epileptic seizures.

#### JOINT MEETING

#### August 18, 1937

#### Dr. Reginald Smith, Presiding

"Medical Libraries in Approved Hospitals"—by Dr. Numa P. Adams, Dean of Howard University Medical School. Dean Adams spoke of the lack of good libraries in approved hosiptals, he mentioned the survey of several hospitals and found lack of interest in reading manifested by internes and associates. Any library provided with ample supplies of books and journals give offer of service. Internes should read in order to provide themselves with the latest information.

Remarks were made by Dr. J. J. Mullowney, President of Meharry Medical College. He spoke of the lack of Negro Dentists and Pharmacists, in making a survey of supply and demand through four northern and four southern states. In Alabama, only 45 dentists to 944,834 Negroes. In Mississippi, only 29 dentists to 1,009,718 Negroes. In Georgia, 59 dentists to 1,071,125 Negroes. In I lineis, 157 dentists to a population of 328,972. In Michigan, 49 dentists to 169,453. He strongly urged dentists to go to smaller places where the demand is greater. In New York there are 157 dentists to 412,814 Negroes. There were a total of 61 Negroes studying dentistry in the year 1936; hard'y enough students to maintain the dental school.

"Medical Economics"—Dr. Carl F. Vohs, Chairman of the Economics Committee of Missouri State Medical Society. Dr. Carl Vohs states that the future and safety of medicine lies in a profession that will be highly defined, highly disciplined, restricted in personnel, better protected and more efficient. The control must be professional and internal. The committee on Medical Economics of the Missouri State Medical Association for the last two years has undertaken to integrate all its activities so as to assure cooperation and prevent overlapping.

Talk on "Pediatrics"—Dr. Walter Maddox, Montgomery, Alabama mentioned the ratio of birth and death between white and colored. Said the government is attempting to extend service to white and Negro doctors in order to give better medical service in rural communities.

Prenatal care was stressed in a talk on "Medical Education," by Father Alphonse M. Schwitalla, Dean of St. Louis University Medical School. He stated that the cultural level of the race should be raised and advised that our profession be conscious of this condition. The colored profession must contact the race and make them conscious of health conditions.

What is happening in medicine today? (1) We are paying more attention to individuals today, stressing

physical examination. (2) Generalizations of medical education. Individualization of medical students should be stressed—should get away from large classes and groups and pay attention to the individual student. (3) Sociology and politics are at odds today. Sociology is trying to individualize medicine while politics is trying to mass all in one group.

Attendance 870.

A. C. Terrence, M.D.,

Assistant Secretary.

#### MEDICAL SECTION

August 20, 1937

Called to order by Dr. T. M. Smith, Chairman, at 10:30 A.M. The first paper presented was entitled "Discogenetic Disease of the Cervical Spine (a common lesion of the Cervical Spine responsible for Segmental Neuritis)" by Dr. Edward L. Turner, chief of the Medical Department, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn. Dr. W. Harry Barnes of Philadelphia, Pa., spoke on the diagnosis of Mediastinal Affections, citing two cases, presenting their histories and management.

Election of officers: Dr. T. M. Smith of Chicago was re-elected chairman by acclamation. Dr. Leo S. Butler of Louisiana was reelected Secretary by acclamation. For the Executive Board, Dr. W. F. Boddie of Georgia, Dr. W. Harry Barnes of Pennsylvania, and Dr. A. W. Dumas of Mississippi were elected from the Medical Section.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

LEO S. BUTLER, Secretary.

#### MINUTES OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

#### August 18, 1937

The House of Delegates met in session at 5 P.M. with Dr. G. Hamilton Francis, speaker, presiding. Report of credentials committee.

Explanation of functions of House of Delegates given by Doctors Boddie and Francis. The House of Delegates is composed of delegates representing 101 paid up local societies and 56 paid up state societies.

The chairman ruled that there should be one delegate from each section. Minutes of the last meeting of the House of Delegates were read by Dr. W. D. Morman. Minutes approved.

Dr. W. A. Younge of St. Louis presented Dr. G. Hamilton Francis of Virginia, speaker of the House of Delegates, who presented his annual address. Upon motion by Dr. Moore of St. Louis it was voted that the address of the speaker be placed on the records.

Dr. Plump of Alabama made the report from the Executive Board. The report was accepted, with commendation of the committee. Election of officers was the next order of business. Dr. G. Hamilton Francis was re-elected as speaker. Other officers elected were: Dr. Wm. Young, vice speaker and Dr. Mormon, secretary. Meeting adjourned until Thursday August 19, 1937, 12:30 P.M.

#### August 19, 1937

The second session of the House of Delegates was held in St. Louis, at the Sumner High School. Meeting was called to order by Speaker G. Hamilton Francis. Prayer lead by Dr. Long of South Carolina. Speaker Francis appointed a committee on Ways and Means. They were as follows: Drs. E. K. McDonald of Illinois, chairman; W. P. Dickerson of Virginia; E. W. Weaver, of Georgia; A. W. Plump, of Alabama; H. E. Lee, of Texas; and G. W. S. Ish, of Arkansas. Speaker Francis then presented Dr. Roscoe C. Giles, President of N. M. A., who addressed the House of Delegates on the financial difficulties that he had to overcome during his administration, and the lack of dentists and physicians in various sections. Secretary Morman read a report of the Executive Board indorsing birth control. The report was received and turned over to the Ways and Means Committee. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted with the necessary corrections. Report of Credentials Committee read and approved with substitution of delegates as a result of the absence of some. Dr. Boddie of Georgia made a motion that the roll as read by the Credentials Committee be accepted as a permanent record of the House of Delegates. Davis of Tennessee moved that the speech of the speaker become the permanent record and printed in the Journal. Unfinished business, none. New business: Speaker announced that the terms of the following doctors on the Executive Board had expired: Surgical: J. L. Leach, and Harry Barnes from the Hospital Association, Clyde Darnell from the Insurance Association, J. W. Linder from the Medical. Speaker Francis ruled that we had no authority to elect members of the Executive Board. Dr. Payne ot Illinois submitted a report from the Committee on Tuberculosis, submitted to the Ways and Means Committee. Dr. Linden M. Hill, president, was presented by the speaker. He asked for support of the doctors everywhere, and stated that his administration would be fair to all sections. House opened for election of officers. The following officers were elected:

President-elect: George W. Bowles, York, Pa.; Vice-President, W. P. Dickerson, Newport News, Va.; Vice-president (Dental Section): J. D. Avant, Pittsburgh; Vice-president (Pharmaceutical Section): Raymond F. Thompson, Chicago; General Secretary: John T. Givens, Norfolk, Va., Assistant Secretary. A. C. Terrence, Opelousas, La.; Assistant Secretary (Dental), G. A. Lewis, Little Rock, Ark., E. G. Weathers, Illinois; Assistant Secretary, (Pharmaceutical Section). Treasurer, E. T. Taylor. J. A. C. Latimore of Kentucky was elected as unofficial observer from the House of Delegates to the Executive Board. The following named were elected by acclamation: Bowles of Pennsylvania; J. T. Givens, A. C. Terrence, E. T. Taylor. The report of the Committee on Ways and Means changing the wording of the birth control as sent in by the Executive Board. The wording of the Ways and Means Committee was voted down and the words of the Executive Board were approved. Weaver of Georgia, recommended that the House approve the official conduct of the meeting by the Speaker. Carried by unanimous consent. Secretary was instructed to interview the Executive Board in regards to getting a minute book and any other material needed. Mention was also made of Dr. C. T. McKinney of California, who is author of one of the best known books. M. L. Preacher of San Antonio was appointed to serve on the Tuberculosis Commission.

Meeting adjourned.

DR. WILLIAM D. MORMAN, Secretary.

### STATEMENT FROM GENERAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Many thanks to those who came to St. Louis and gave of their time and means to make the convention the big success it was. Thanks also are due those who could not come but gave concrete evidence of their good wishes and their desire to cooperate to build a greater Association.

#### Well Repaid

Those who were fortunate enough to be there expressed themselves as being richly repaid and the investment will yield handsome dividends through the coming years.

Outlook for Coming Year-Hampton Calls

We are looking forward to another year of steady growth, culminating in the biggest and best meeting in our history at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., next August 15-19. The groundwork has already

been laid for one of the grandest scientific, cultural and pleasurable programs imaginable. Nothing will be left undone for the comfort and enjoyment of you and your family and you too will agree that Hampton "knows how" and that the natural beauty and charm of the layout there fully entitles it to be called "The nearest bit of Paradise on Earth."

Not only Hampton Institute but the whole state of Virginia (whose State Society extended the invitation) are hoping and expecting to see you there.

#### Please

Those who have not paid 1937 Fellowship and Journal Dues will please forward the same at once to the General Secretary. No man can afford to miss a copy of the only Scientific Journal we have in our group. Please do this now for we are trying to get into position to issue the Journal monthly and this can be done very easily if all will pay their dues promptly whether or not they attend the annual session. Then, too, every Fellow should keep the record of his membership unbroken for many reasons besides his eligibility for appointment or election to office.

All Dues for 1938 are due and payable January 1, 1938 when every officer and member is expected to pay dues for the year. Please do this. The names of those paying up when due will be published in the Journal.

#### Constituent Societies

A total of fifty-one State and Local Societies registered in St. Louis representing a total N.M.A. constituency of over 5000. We are extremely proud of our Constituent Societies and the N.M.A., as now constituted, is built up and ruled almost entirely of its Component and Constituent Societies. Their officers will rank as officers of the N.M.A. and those who cooperate fully will be entitled to wear the distinctive Officers Badge at our conventions, in addition to other special recognitions.

#### Send In A Roster Of Your Members

Secretaries are requested to send in a complete roster of names and addresses of all your members. We must have a complete list of all our Constituent members on file at all times.

#### The Ideal In Cooperation

More and more State and Local Societies are collecting N.M.A. Fellowship Journal Dues at the same time as they collect their own dues. This is the ideal method which is employed by other national organizations and we are earnestly asking that all our Con-

stituent Societies do this. Then will the hopes and ideals of our founders come true and there would be nothing desirable for the Association which it could not have.

Please present this proposition to your Society and put the plan in operation and see us grow by leaps and bounds.

#### Financial Status

Below is the Financial Statement which should be very encouraging. Help to maintain it.

Amount Turned Over During Convention...... 2,914.00

Total Amount of Cash to Credit of N.M.A.

After Payment of all Outstanding
Bills and Obligations Which Were
Presented Before and During the
Convention \$1,291.03

#### Journal Allocation Data

Amount of Money Allocated to N.M.A.

Journal Fund for 1937......\$ 806.00

Profit from Monies Collected by the Publisher from Advertisers in the Journal to August 19, 1937......

203.00

TOTAL AMOUNT TO CRED:T OF JOURNAL AUG-UST 19, 1937......\$1,009.00

> Signed by John T. Givens, M.D., General Secretary, National Medical Association, 1108 Church Street, Norfolk, Virginia.

Balance of Meeting Resume will be continued in the February, 1938, issue.